Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02225 012230Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02
DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05 NASA-01
COME-00 ICA-11 H-01 /140 W
----------041827 021334Z /46
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1715
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02225

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: PFOR, TSPA, CG, SOPN
SUBJECT: ZAIRE: WEST GERMAN ROCKET FACILITY

DURING LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH ZAIRE MISSION DEPUTY PERMREP BUKETI, AMBASSADOR LEONARD ASKED ABOUT THE WEST GERMAN OTRAG ROCKET LAUNCH SITE IN ZAIRE. BUKETI CLAIMED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE OTRAG SITE WAS TO LAUNCH COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITES, WHICH EVENTUALLY WOULD PROVIDE A MUCH NEEDED IMPROVEMENT IN ZAIRE'S DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITIES. LEONARD SAID THAT, NONETHELESS, ZAIRE'S DETRACTORS BOTH WITHIN THE UN AND ELSEWHERE, CONTINUED TO MAKE PROPAGANDA USE OUT OF THE OTRAG FACILITY, DESCRIBING IT AS A "MISSILE BASE", ETC. HE SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT VERY WELL BE IN ZAIRE'S INTEREST TO INVITE A GROUP OF COMPETENT OBSERVERS, WHICH MIGHT INCLUDE JOURNALISTS, ANGOLAN OFFICIALS AND PERHAPS UN OFFICIALS, TO THE OTRAG SITE TO LET THEM SEE FOR THEMSELVES THE PEACEFUL PURPOSES WHICH THE FACILITY SERVED. BUKETI TOOK THE SUGGESTION BUT MADE NO COMMENT. YOUNG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 4eb4417d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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TAGS: PFOR, TSPA, SOPN, CG, GE, OTRAG, (LEONARD, JAMES F), (BUKAYI MATULOMBELE BUKETI)
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